

Message Text

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72

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 NEA-10 AF-10 IO-14 SAJ-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01

SIL-01 ACDA-19 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-10

PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /191 W

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P R 262230Z NOV 73

FM AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1900

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

AMCONSUL PERTH

AMCONSUL BRISBANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MELBOURNE 1222

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, AS

SUBJECT: R. HAWKE ON HIS DISPUTE WITH PRIME MINISTER OVER
MIDDLE EAST AND OTHER ISSUES

REF: MELBOURNE 1221

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH LABATT ON NOVEMBER 26, HELD TO DISCUSS
HIS RECENT RRIPS TO TEL AVIV AND MOSCOW (REFTEL), TRADE UNION
COUNCIL BOB HAWKE SAID HE HAD FINALLY FOUND PRIME MINISTER'S
RECENT CONDUCT "BEYOND BELIEF". (DIRECT QUOTATIONS IN THIS
REPORT WILL BE DIFFICULT AS HAWKE USED SHORT WORDS OF
EMPHASIS NOT SUITABLE FOR FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

2.HAWKE SAID HE HAD ALWAYS FOUND WHITLAM DIFFICULT AND VERY
EGOCENTRIC ("EVEN FOR ME") BUT HAD HELD HIM AS ESSENTIALLY A
"GOOD MAN" IN THE SIMPLE SENSE OF WORD. NOW HE IS NOT SO
SURE. HE COULD NOT UNDERSTAND CONCEPT OF "EVEN HANDED" POLICY AND
THOUGHT WHITLAM HAD "CAVED IN" ON MIDEAST FOR "COMMERCIAL
REASONS".

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3. DURING 1972, HAWKE HAD BROUGHT WHITLAM TO VISIT MANY JEES
AMB JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS. THESE WERE OCCASIONS WHEN WHITLAM
NOT ONLY SOUGHT VOTING SUPPORT, BUT BEGGED MONEY. WHITLAM
MADE MUCH OF FACT THAT LABOR PARTY WAS PARTY FOR "UNDERDOGS".
HE PROMISED TO BE FIRST AUSTRALIAN PM TO VISIT ISRAEL, BUT
NEVER GOT CLOSER THAN RHODES. HE PROMISED TO ROUTE QANTAS AIR

QTE TO ISRAEL, BUT HAS NOT TRIED TO DO SO. HE REFUSED
TO SEE JEWISH ELDERS BEFORE OR AFTER ISSUING MIDEAST POLICY
STATEMENTS UNTIL HAWKE INSISTED THAT HE DO SO. IN THE EVENT,
MEETING WAS PRO FORMA AND COMPLETELY UNSATISFACTORY AND
HUMILIATING FOR THE JEWS.

4. ON THE ISRAELI QUESTION, HAWKE IS ATTEMPTING TO BUILD CABAL
DIRECTED AT PM BASED ON PARLIAMENTARY LABOR GROUP, CALLING
THEMSELVES "FRIENDS OF ISRAEL", AND NUMBERING 43 MEMBERS. HAWKE
IS BEING HELPED IN THIS BY ALP VICTORIA LEADER, CLYDE
HOLDING, AND BY JOE RIORDAN, MP OF SYDNEY. SINCE 43 IS OVER
HALF OF CAUCUS, NUMBERING 67, HAWKE FEELS IT CAN GET "THAT
ARROGANT BASTARD". (IT IS UNCLEAR WHAT "GET" MEANS IN THIS
CONTEXT).

5. MOVING ON TO HIS OTHER RECENT PUBLIC BREAKS WITH PM (ON
DIRECT TAXATION AND UPCOMING WAGE CONTROL REFERENDUM) HAWKE
FEELS THAT WHITLAM RESENTS ANYBODY WHO GET PUBLICITY
WHICH TENDS TO MOVE SPOTLIGHT AWAY FROM HIMSELF. HAWKE FEELS
ALSO THAT WHITLAM RESENTS HAVING TO GIVE UP FOREIGN MINISTRY AND
PROBABLY BLAMES HIM, HAWKE, FOR HAVING TO DO SO.
FLUKER

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